[5th August 1955

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" Applications from both the Backward Classes and Harijans are forwarded to the Director of Harijan Welfare through heads of institutions."

*Village panchayats constituted in* 1954.

* 1949 *Q.*—SRI M. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state how many village panchayats were constituted in the State in 1954?

THE HON. SRI S. S. RAMASAMY PADAYACHI :—" Three hundred and fifty-eight new panchayats were constituted in the year 1954."

SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP :—" The Madras Village Panchayats Act was passed more than five years ago but the formation of new panchayats has been tediously slow. Especially in view of the Second Five-Year Plan, will the Government see that the formation of panchayats is expedited in all villages soon? "

THE HON. SRI S. S. RAMASAMY PADAYACHI :—" Only in 1954, 358 new panchayats were constituted but in 1955 we have constituted 5,203 panchayats."

*House-rent allowance to aided elementary school teachers.*

* 1950 *Q.*—SRI M. VENUGOPALA GOUNDER : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received any representations from the aided elementary school teachers in Tindivanam Municipality to grant them house-rent allowance; and

(*b*) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" (*a*) No, Sir.

" (*b*) Does not arise."

*Mill workers' token strike in Coimbatore on* 21*st December* 1954.

* 1951 *Q.*—SRI K. P. GOPALAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state how many workers were arrested in Coimbatore on 21st December 1954 and afterwards in connexion with the one-day token strike by the mill workers protesting against the policy of the Government for not implementing the Textile Tripartite Enquiry Committee's recommendations?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" Forty-seven workers, Sir."